Continuance of dowry-death cases

3533. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether dowry-death cases pertraining to young brides are continuing unabated despite implementation of the Dowry-Prohibition Act, 1961; and

(b) if so, the number of cases reported during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) NCRB data shows rising trend in the cases of dowry death in the recent past.

(b) As per NCRB data, total number of 6787, 7618 and 8093 cases were registered during 2005, 2006 and 2007 respectively.

Child death

3534. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN:
SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:
SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR:
Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether UNICEF has recently revealed in its report that nearly 5000 children die under the age of five due to preventable causes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) Government's reaction thereto alongwith the reasons therfor;

(d) whether the various programmes/schemes launched by the Central Government for the development of children are not effective and child mortality rate is increasing; and

(e) if so, the concrete steps Government has taken on the basis of UNICEF's report alongwith the amount allocated to meet those steps?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) and (b) As per report of Registrar General of India (report No. 2 of 2008) the child mortality rate (0-4 years) in India is 16.

As per the 'Causes of Death, 2001-03', Registrar General of India, the top 10 causes of death among children aged 0 to 4 years are:

- Perinatal conditions (33%),
- Respiratory infections (22%),
- Diarrhoeal diseases (14%),
- Other infectious and parasitic diseases (11%),
- Symptoms, signs and ill-defined conditions (3.4%),

- Unintentional injuries: other (3.2%),
- Nutritional deficiencies (2.8%),
- Malaria (2.7%),
- Congenital anomalies (2.7%), and
- Fever of unknown origin (1.5%).

(c) to (e) The child mortality in the country decreased from 32 to 18 as per NFHS-3 report (2005-06).

Government of India in the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare is taking various steps including implementation of National rural Health Mission, Janani Suraksha Yojana, Reproductive and Child Health programme and other disease control programmes to reduce the incidence of child mortality.

Key strategies are to increase coverage of skilled care at birth for newborns together with maternal care, strengthening and augmenting of existing services, implementation of multi-year strategic plan for Universal Immunisation Programme (UIP). Components of child care include Navjat Shishu Suraksha Karyakaram, Infant and Young Child Feeding, Vitamin A supplementation and iron and folic acid supplementation, early detection and appropriate management of Acute respiratory infections, diarrhoea and other infections, Integrated Management of Neonatal and Childhood Illness (IMNCI), Facility based IMNCI, Home based care of newborns and management of children with malnutrition, treatment of severe acute malnutrition through Nutrition Rehabilitation Centres (NRCs).

The Government is also implementing the Integrated Child Development Services Scheme which provide a package of six services which include supplementary nutrition for children under six years, pregnant and lactating women. Government has universalized ICDS scheme with increased budgetary allocation in 2009-10 for expansion of Anganwadi centers as well as increase in financial and nutritional norms. Besides, there are other programmes such as Rajiv Gandhi Mission for Drinking Water and Total Sanitation Campaign which are being implemented and have impact on improving health and nutritional status.

Convention on child rights

3535. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA:
DR. ABHISHEK MANU SINGHVI:

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the country has participated in the 20th anniversary celebration of the Convention on the Rights of the Child held during October-November, 2009 which has always upheld a universally agreed-upon set of non-negotiable basic human rights, standards and obligations, including the right of survival and protection;

(b) whether the convection forcefully reitereated its rhetoric reconmmitment to protecting girls and ending sons preference; and